

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 06833 221247Z

47

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05

ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07

NRC-05 OES-03 FEAE-00 DODE-00 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 MC-02 /110 W

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R 221115Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8832

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 6833

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TGGS: PFOR, PARM, PK, IN

SUBJ: INDIAN PROPOSAL TO PAKS ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS
DECLARATION

1. DURING MAY 15-20 INDO-PAK TALKS IN NEW DELHI, INDIANS
COUNTERED PAK DELEGATION'S PROPOSAL THAT INDIA ISSUE
"SELF-DENYING" NUCLEAR WEAPONS DECLARATION AT CONFERENCE
OF SOUTH ASIAN STATES WITH SUGGESTION THAT INDIA WAS
PREPARED TO INCLUDE SUCH A DECLARATION IN A BILATERAL
TREATY WITH PAKISTAN--EITHER A BROAD TREATY COVERING
NONAGGRESSION BETWEEN THE TWO STATES (AN OLD IDEA
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PAGE 02 NEW DE 06833 221247Z

WHICH INDIANS AWARE GOP REJECTS AT THIS TIME) OR A

SPECIFIC TREATY DEALING ONLY WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS (A NEW IDEA).

2. MEA JOINT SECRETARY (PAKISTAN) CHIB TOLD POLCOUNSELOR MAY 21 THAT INDIA HAD EXPLAINED TO PAKS THAT SINCE GOP WAS ONLY GOVT IN SOUTH ASIA TO QUESTION INDIA'S UNILATERAL STATEMENT THAT IT INTENDED TO USE NUCLEAR POWER ONLY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES, THERE WAS NO POINT IN BRINGING OTHER STATES INTO A FORUM FOR SUCH A RESTATEMENT OF THE INDIAN POSITION. MRS. GANDHI HAD FORMALLY STATED INDIA'S POSITION IN A LETTER TO MR. BHUTTO ON MAY 22, 1974 (NEW DELHI 6829 (NOTAL)) BUT IF PAKISTAN WISHED THIS FORMALIZED FURTHER, THE GOI WAS PREPARED TO DO SO IN A SEPARATE AND SPECIAL BILATERAL TREATY. CHIB SAID THAT PAK FONSEC AGHA SHAHI HAD TOLD THE INDIANS HE WOULD TAKE THE INDIAN PROPOSAL BACK TO ISLAMABAD FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

3. INDIAN PRESS BRIEFINGS ON MAY 20 REFER TO THE INDIAN PROPOSAL, ATTRIBUTING THE REPORT TO "OFFICIAL SOURCES." THE "TIMES OF INDIA" (MAY 21), FOR EXAMPLE, SAYS THAT INDIA "OFFERED TO ENTER INTO A BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH PAKISTAN TO FORMALIZE ITS ASSURANCES ON THE NUCLEAR PROGRAMME." THE MADRAS "HINDU" VERSION IS THAT INDIA "PROMISED TO CONSIDER ANY PAKISTANI PROPOSAL FOR A BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON THE USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY ONLY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES TO ASSUAGE ANY GENUINE FEARS OF POSSIBLE MILITARY USES IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE."

4. THE INDIAN PROPOSAL, IF IT HAS BEEN ACCURATELY DESCRIBED BY CHIB AND IN THE PRESS, WOULD SEEM TO GO FAR TO MEET THE PAKISTANI DESIRE TO BIND FUTURE INDIAN GOVTS ON THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS ISSUE. WE ASSUME THE USG WOULD ALSO FIND IT A POTENTIALLY HELPFUL INDIAN INITIATIVE IN THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF NON-PROLIFERATION DISCUSSION AS WELL. WE WOULD WELCOME ANY FURTHER CLARIFICATION EMBASSY ISLAMABAD MAY BE ABLE TO GARNER ON THE SUBJECT. (OTHER CHIB COMMENTS ON THE INDO-PAK DISCUSSIONS ARE REPORTED SEPTEL.)
SCHNEIDER

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